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ABSTRACT

These three volumes list and describe a total of 65 new educational software products. The lists are the result of February and September 1988 polls of 10 computer coordinators from large educational software preview centers and evaluation agencies, who were asked to identify new products they had seen which, in their professional opinion, were worthy of further review. The purpose of these polls was to highlight new titles that are likely to appear in the reviews from major software evaluation agencies. For each listing, the name of the software producer, price, grade level, hardware requirements, keywords, and a brief description are provided. The second and third volumes also include software producer contact information. (EW)

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THE Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

NEW AND PROMISING:
Software Worth A Look

A MicroSIFT Survey of
Educational Software Preview Center Coordinators

Volume I, No. 1

Dave Weaver

March 1988

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
101 S.W. Main, Suite 500
Portland, Oregon 97204

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In February 1988, a group of eight computer coordinators from large educational software preview centers and evaluation agencies were asked to identify new products they have seen which, in their professional opinion, are worthy of further consideration by other reviewing agencies and schools. The purpose of this poll is to highlight new titles which are not likely to appear in the reviews from major software evaluation agencies. The following list represents the results of this poll.

Ace Detective $49.99, Apple II family, grades 2-8, problem solving, game--Students solve crimes by gathering evidence and using their critical thinking skills to print out a "mug shot" of the suspect. Methods & Solutions/MindPlay, 100 Conifer Hill Drive, Building 3, Suite 301, Danvers, MA 01923, 800/221-7911

Adobe Illustrator 1.0 $495.00, Macintosh 512K, grades 9-adult, art, graphics--A graphics package for graphic artist, technical illustrator, or layout designer that produces PostScript output. Adobe Systems, 1585 Charleston Road, Mountain View, CA 94039, 415/961-4400

Adventures with Charts & Graphs: Project Zoo $139.50, Apple II + e c GS 64K, grades 3-5, life science--A multi-media courseware adventure where students learn how to care for animals in a zoo, and how a zoo could be designed. National Geographic Educational Services, 17th & M Streets NW, Washington, DC 20036, 202/857-7378

Calendar Crafter $59.00, Apple II GS 512K, grades 2-adult, graphics--Creates customized calendars for a week, a month, or a full year incorporating graphic icons, symbols, and font types. MECC, 3490 Lexington Avenue North, St. Paul., MN 55126, 612/481-3500

CalendarMaker Version 3.0 $39.95, Macintosh, grades 2-adult, graphics--Creates custom calendars with up to 255 characters of text per day plus graphic icons for reminders. CE Software, 801 - 73rd Street, Des Moines, IA 50312, 515/224-1995, 800/523-7638

Colortrope $79.00, Apple II + e c, IBM PC/PCjr, grades 4-12, physical science--Using the color monitor as a light source students explore basic principles of light and color. HRM Software, 175 Tompkins Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570, 800/431-2050, 914/769-6900

Curriculum Data Bases for AppleWorks: Weather & Climate Lab $74.95, Apple II e c GS 128K, grades 7-12, earth science, database--Students analyze real data and develop and test hypotheses about the relationship between geographic features and climate and weather. Scholastic, Inc., P.O. Box 7501, 2901 East McCarty Street, Jefferson City, MO, 65102, 800/325-6149

DeluxPaint II $99.95, Apple II GS, Amiga, grades 4-adult, art, graphics--A graphics tool for creating colorful artwork with over 90 painting tools and effects. Electronic Arts, 1820 Gateway Drive, San Mateo, CA 94404, 415/571-7171

* **FullWrite** Macintosh, grades 9-adult, word processing--A full-featured word processor with page layout capabilities. Ann Arbor Softworks, 2393 Teller Road, suite 106, Newbury, CA 91320, 805/375-1467

Grade Busters 1|2|3 $79.95, Apple II e c GS 64K, grades 3-12, gradebook--Spreadsheet-style gradebook and attendance keeper handles 40 scores for 40 students per class roster with remarkable speed. Disco-Tech, 36-10 Queen Anne Way, Colorado Springs, CO 80907, 303/591-9815

HyperCard 1.0.1 $49.00, Macintosh 1M, grades 9-adult, database--A collection of tools for constructing custom applications which lend themselves to database development. Apple Computer, Inc., 20525 Mariana Avenue, Cupertino, CA 95014, 408/973-3850

* **II Write** $89.95, Apple II e c GS 128K, grades 4-adult, word processing--A full-featured word processing and page layout program with Mac-like interface and WYSIWYG output. Random House, Inc., 201 East 50th Street, New York, NY 10022, 212/572-2139

MacAtlas $49.00, Macintosh, grades 8-adult, geography, database--A collection of clip art maps templates of the United States by state and of world regions by country. MicroMaps, P.O. Box 757, Lambertville, NJ 08530, 609/397-1611, 800/334-4291

Music Studio Version 2.0 $99.00, Apple II GS, Amiga, grades 9-adult, music--A music tool kit program which enables the user to compose, edit, play, and print musical scores of up to 4 tracks. Activision, Inc., P.O. Box 7286, Mountain View, CA 94039, 415/960-0518 x 5454

National Gallery of Art Laser Guide The $49.95, Macintosh 1M, grades 9-adult, art, database--A Hypercard stack index to the National Gallery of Art video disk ($95.00) which contains over 1000 entries. The Voyager Company, 2139 Manning Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025, 213/474-0032

Playing with Science: Temperature $85.00, Apple II e c GS 64K, grades K-7, physical science, interfacing--Students perform experiments with up to three thermistors. Results encourage open-ended exploration. Sunburst Communications, 39 Washington Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570-9971, 800/431-1934

Print Shop GS $59.95, Apple II GS , grades 4-adult, graphics--The Print Shop is a graphics utility for creating greeting cards, letterhead, banners, and signs. Broderbund Software, Inc., 17 Paul Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903-2101, 415/492-3200

Publish It! $99.95, Apple II e c GS 128K, grades 7-adult, word processing, page layout--A full-featured desktop publishing tool that allows you to layout, produce, and print professional-looking documents. TimeWorks, 444 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield, IL 60015, 312/948-9202

Quark Xpress 1.10 $400.00, Macintosh 1M, grades 9-adult, word processing, page layout--An "integrated desktop publishing system" that has full word processing and page layout features. Quark, Inc., PO Box 10698, Denver, CO 80210, 303/934-2211

Reader Rabbit: GS Version $59.95, Apple II GS, grades K-2, reading--Students build fundamental reading and spelling skills through four carefully sequenced games which incorporate speech. The Learning Company, 6493 Kaiser Drive, Fremont, CA 94555, 415/792-2101

Ready Set Go! 4.0 $495.00, Macintosh 512K, grades 9-adult, page layout--A page layout program for designing brochures, flyers, tabloids, newsletters, and reports. Manhattan Graphics, 401 Columbus Avenue, Valhalla, NY 10013, 201/845-6100

Regrouping (Memory) $65.00, Apple II + e c GS 64K, grades 3-6, problem solving--Introduces students to the memory strategy of regrouping. Sunburst Communications, 39 Washington Avenue, Pleasantville, NY 10570-9971, 800/431-1934

Ripple That Changed American History, The $69.95, Apple II + e c GS 64K, IBM PC/PCjr. 256K, Tandy 1000, grades 5-12, history, problem solving--Students are challenged to locate and destroy the dangerous "Ripple" in time by determining the dates of historical conversations they overhear while using the "history machine" and probes. Tom Snyder Productions, Inc., 90 Sherman Street, Cambridge, MA 02140, 800/342-0236

Scholastic MultiScribe School Package $124.95, Apple II e c 128K GS 512K, grades 3-adult, word processing--A word processor and page layout program capable of incorporating graphics into text. Scholastic, Inc., P.O. Box 7501, 2901 East McCarty Street, Jefferson City, MO, 65102, 800/325-6149

ShowOff $59.95, Apple II GS 512K, Grades 3-adult, graphics--Creates high-quality visual aids such as color posters, transparencies, and stand-alone or interactive screen shows. Broderbund Software, Inc., 17 Paul Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903-2101, 415/492-3200

* **Springboard Publisher** $139.95, Apple II e c GS 128K, grades 1-adult, word processing, page layout--A desktop publishing program with Mac-like interface capable of incorporating graphics with text. Springboard Software, Inc., 7808 Creekridge Circle, Minneapolis, MN 55435, 612/944-3915

Superprint $74.95, Apple II 128K, IBM PC 256K, Tandy 1000 256K, grades 2-adult, graphics--Creates posters, signs, cards, banners, and calendars. Posters and signs may be small or giant size. Scholastic, Inc., P.O. Box 7501, 2901 East McCarty Street, Jefferson City, MO, 65102, 800/325-6149

Ticket to: Paris, Spain $39.95 each, Apple e c GS 128K, Commodore 64, IBM PC 128K, grades 5-adult, French, Spanish, geography, problem solving, game--Students travel around a country or city learning about the region while looking for clues to solve a mystery. The programs can be run in English or the language of the respective country. Blue Lion Software, Inc., 90 Sherman Street, Cambridge, MA 02140, 617/876-2500

Time Out Series: Ultra Macros $59.95, Apple II e c GS 128K, grades 7-adult, utility--An AppleWorks add-on which allows the creation of sophisticated keyboard and procedure macros. Beagle Brothers, 6215 Ferris Square, Suite 100, San Diego, CA 92121, 619/296-6400

TopDraw $89.95, Apple II GS 512K, grades 7-adult, graphics--An object-oriented graphics (draw) program with a wide variety of drawing tools capable of printing oversized drawings. Styleware, 5250 Gulfton Avenue, Suite 2e, Houston, TX 77081, 713/668-1360

Visualizer $89.95, Apple II e c GS 128K, grades 4-adult, graphing--A graphing utility with Mac-like interface which constructs 10 different types of graphs and charts for user entered data. PBI Software, 1163 Triton Drive, Foster City, CA 94404, 415/349-8765

Where in Europe is Carmen SanDiego? $54.95, Apple II Family, Tandy 1000, grades 4-9, geography, game--Players chase Carmen and her gang of thieves around 34 European countries looking for clues while learning about Europe. Broderbund Software, Inc., 17 Paul Drive, San Rafael, CA 94903-2101, 415/492-3200

* **WordPerfect for the Mac** $395.00, Macintosh 512K, grades 9-adult, word processing--A full-featured word processor with a spelling checker, a thesaurus, macros, and multi-column capabilities. WordPerfect Corporation, 288 West Center Street, Orem, UT 84057, 801/227-4035, 801/227-5801

* **NOTE:** Judgment based on experience with a pre-release version of the product.

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- Developing and disseminating effective educational products and procedures
- Conducting research on educational needs and problems
- Providing technical assistance in educational problem solving
- Evaluating effectiveness of educational programs and projects
- Providing training in educational planning, management, evaluation and instruction
- Serving as an information resource on effective educational programs and processes including networking among educational agencies, institutions and individuals in the region

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THE Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

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NEW AND PROMISING: Software Worth A Look

A MicroSIFT Survey of Educational Software Preview Center Coordinators

Dave Weaver

October 1988

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
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Portland, Oregon 97204

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And If Re-elected
Focus Media, Inc. $ 65.00
Grades: 7-12 **Hardware:** Apple II e c 64K, IBM PC 128K, Tandy 1000. **Keywords:** Social Studies, Government, Simulation. **Description:** Students role-play an incumbent U.S .President who must resolve 12 crises during his/her campaign. Students can see the impact of his/her decisions on society and the President is either returned to office or defeated by another candidate as a result.

A Survey Kit (ASK)
D.C. Heath S/W (Collamore) $ 51.00
Grades: 9-12 **Hardware:** Apple II + e c 64K. **Keywords:** Social Studies, Survey Taker. **Description:** A utility program for creating, printing, and analyzing the results of surveys.

Algebra Shop: School Edition
Scholastic, Inc. $ 69.95
Grades: 7-10 **Hardware:** Apple II + e c GS 64K, IBM PC 256K, Tandy 1000 256K, MS-DOS versions require Color Graphics Card. **Keywords:** Math, Algebra, Problem Solving, Home. **Description:** Students apply their algebra skills as they serve customers in 10 different stores in a simulated shopping mall. A home version is available for $39.95.

Balancing Bear
Sunburst Communications $ 65.00
Grades: K-4 **Hardware:** Apple II family 64K, Muppet Learning Keys, Touch Window optional. **Keywords:** Special Ed., Math, Arithmetic, Numeration, Tutorial. **Description:** Students learn about equivalency by helping a bear balance a beam by adding weights and seeing how the beam tips.

BookWiz
Educational Testing Service $150.00
Grades: 6-9 **Hardware:** Apple II family 64K, Muppet Learning Keys, Touch Window optional. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Reading, Library, Database. **Description:** Students can search a database of over 1000 books for leisure reading. The selections are divided into eight categories and limited modifications can be made to the database.

Children's Writing & Publishing Center: School Edition
The Learning Company $ 79.95
Grades: 2-8 **Hardware:** Apple II series, printer. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Writing, Word Processing, Page Layout. **Description:** An easy -to-use desktop publishing system for young children which includes word processing and page layout capabilities. Graphics may be incorporated into a document by selecting from a graphics library compatible with Print Shop.

Choices, Choices
Tom Snyder Productions $ 89.95
Grades: 1-6 **Hardware:** Apple II series, IBM PC. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Social Studies, Simulation. **Description:** Series uses one computer to involve an entire class in a problem-solving simulation. In "On the Playground," students cope with the new kid in school. In "Taking Responsibilities," students struggle with the ethics of knowing who broke the teacher's vase.

Creation
Pelican Software $ 39.95
Grades: 4-9 **Hardware:** Apple II family 64K, IBM PC 256K. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Writing, Word Processing, Graphics. **Description:** An interactive story-building program with animated graphics and word processing capabilities. Stores graphics and text by page allowing students to create their own storybooks in any of five different sizes.

FirstWriter
Houghton Mifflin Company $117.00
Grades: K-2 **Hardware:** Apple II e c GS 128K, speech synthesizer (Echo for IIe and Cricket for IIc). **Keywords:** Language Arts, Writing, Word Processing, Graphics. **Description:** A simple word processor with speech and graphics capabilities designed for use with primary students.

Geometric Constructor, The
Mathematics Software Co. $ 130.00
Grades: 7-16 **Hardware:** IBM PC 256k, DOS 2.1 or above. **Keywords:** Math, Geometry, Graphics. **Description:** Enables the drawing, saving, and replaying of Euclidean and conic section constructions. Saved constructions can be applied to other similar figures. High school version contains three copies. Developer supports an annual contest.

GeoPublish
Berkeley Softworks $ 69.95
Grades: 8-12 **Hardware:** Apple IIGS, C64/128. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Writing, Word Processing, Page Layout. **Description:** A desktop publishing program which allows students to create multiple column documents incorporating a variety of fonts and graphic images.

Golden Spike, The: Building America's First Transcontinental Railroad
Natl Geographic Ed. Serv. $ 109.50
Grades: 5-9 **Hardware:** Apple II e c GS 128K, color monitor recommended. **Keywords:** Social Studies, Geography, History, Simulation. **Description:** Students participate in the building of the first railroad, surveying, hiring workers, buying supplies, and so forth. Package includes a sound filmstrip, 15 student reference booklets, catalog cards, 15 activity sheets, & guide.

Grab-a-Cab
Silver Burdett & Ginn Not available
Grades: 4-6 **Hardware:** Apple II family. **Keywords:** Social Studies, Geography, Maps, Simulation. **Description:** Students assume the role of cab drivers in Compasstown, picking up passengers and delivering them to their destinations.

GSWorks
CLARIS Corporation $ 249.95
Grades: 10-16 **Hardware:** Apple II GS. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Writing, Vocational Ed., Business Ed., Word Processing, Graphics, Page Layout, Spreadsheet, Database. **Description:** A fully integrated software package with a Macintosh-like window-based environment. Can be used with a variety of printers.

Jumping Math Flash
Mindscape, Inc. $ 49.95
Grades: 1-4 **Hardware:** Apple II + e c. **Keywords:** Math, Arithmetic, Whole Numbers, Drill, Game. **Description:** Students practice basic math skills in this arcade-style math drill program.

Mathematica 1.0
Wolfram Research $ 495.00
Grades: 9-Col. **Hardware:** Macintosh Plus/SE & II, System 6.0, Finder 6.1. **Keywords:** Math, Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus, Graphing, Demonstration, Utility. **Description:** A mathematical calculating and plotting tool capable of performing algebraic operations on user-entered expressions and relations, and displaying complex three-dimensional graphs. Macintosh II version is $795.00.

Mathematics Exploration Toolkit
IBM, Inc. $ 236.00
Grades: 8-12 **Hardware:** IBM PC. **Keywords:** Math, Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus, Graphing, Demonstration, Utility, Tutorial. **Description:** A tool capable of performing all basic math and algebra operations including matrix operations evaluating definite integrals, manipulating trigonometric expressions, and graphing in three colors.

Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing
Software Toolworks, The $ 39.95
Grades: 4-Col. **Hardware:** IBM PC, Tandy 1000, Apple II GS 512K, C64/128, Atari ST, Macintosh 512K, Amiga. **Keywords:** Vocational Ed., Business Ed., Keyboarding, Tutorial, Drill, Game, ABE. **Description:** An artificial intelligence system/typing tutor program that checks each students progress and tailors the typing course to meet individual needs. Apple II GS, Macintosh, Amiga and Atari ST versions are $49.95; lab pack $125.00.

Microzine Jr.
Scholastic, Inc. $ 29.95
Grades: 2-4 **Hardware:** Apple II + e c GS 64K. **Keywords:** Drill, Game, Problem Solving. **Description:** A subscription service for educational software programs published five times a year. Each issue contains four programs. School version includes backup disk, student handbook, teacher's guide, and poster.

Mystery Matter
MECC $59.00
Grades: 4-6 **Hardware:** Apple II e c GS 128K. **Keywords:** Science, Physical Science, Physics, Problem Solving. **Description:** Students perform tests to define the physical attributes and properties of substances, such as size, weight, density, hardness, melting point, boiling point, solubility, and magnetism.

Mystery Objects
MECC $59.00
Grades: 2-4 **Hardware:** Apple II e c GS 128K. **Keywords:** Science, Physical Science, Physics, Problem Solving. **Description:** Students try to determine the identity of everyday objects without looking at them by testing to find the objects physical attributes and properties.

National Inspirer
Tom Snyder Productions $ 69.95
Grades: 5-8 **Hardware:** Apple II + e c GS 64K, IBM PC/PCjr 128K, Tandy 1000, Color graphics card for IBM. **Keywords:** Social Studies, Geography, Game. **Description:** Students are challenged to plan strategic moves from state to state collecting important U.S. commodities. Students work in small groups while one computer manages the game for the entire class.

On Balance
Broderbund Software, Inc. $ 59.95
Grades: 9-12 **Hardware:** Apple II e c GS. **Keywords:** Math, Applied Math, Accounting. **Description:** An accounting package for managing budgets and producing financial statements and summaries.

Plane View
Sunburst Communications $ 65.00
Grades: 4-12 **Hardware:** Apple II family 64K, C64, Color monitor. **Keywords:** Problem Solving. **Description:** Students watch a block move around 24 different paths to discover the relationship between top and bottom views. In a second program, students must identify a path by watching just the side view.

Probe Series, The
Bio-Soft, Inc. $ 39.95
Grades: 7-12 **Hardware:** Apple II + e c 48K. **Keywords:** Science, Life Science, Anatomy. **Description:** This series enables students to investigate the varous parts of the human anatomy. Individual packages in the series include Heart, Bone, Kidney, Respiratory System, Cell, Ear, Skin, Eye, Brain, Tooth, Digestive System, and Endocrine System. 30-disk lab packs are available for $349.00

Reading Magic Library
Tom Snyder Productions $ 34.95
Grades: K-1 **Hardware:** Apple II series, IBM PC. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Reading, Readiness, Drill, Home. **Description:** A series of interactive computer storybooks in which parent and child determine what happens next. Stories incorporate hours of colorful graphics. The stories in the series are titled "Jack in the Beanstalk" and "Flodd, the Bad Guy."

Riddle Magic
Mindscape, Inc. $ 49.95
Grades: 3-12 **Hardware:** Apple II family 48K. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Writing, Vocabulary, Problem Solving. **Description:** Students master the art of riddle making, illustrate their riddles, and design their own riddle books.

Slide Shop
Scholastic, Inc. $ 69.95
Grades: 4-12 **Hardware:** Apple II e c GS, IBM PC. **Keywords:** Presentation, Graphics. **Description:** A desktop presentation system which enables the teacher to create graphic displays incorporating borders, text, ClipArt, and sound, and animation. Slides may then be sequenced for display using a variety of transitions between displays.

Social Studies Tool Kit
Great Lakes Software $178.00
Grades: 7-12 **Hardware:** Apple II, Uses Warehouse. **Keywords:** Social Studies, Government, Economics, Geography, Database. **Description:** The package includes the "Warehouse" database manager, data disks containing files of political, economic, social, & geographic data, and lesson plans. Databases are formed by combining any of the files. The package performs calculations, and displays graphs and maps. The package is available in a States version containing 264 files and a World version containing 85 files, each for $89.00

Spelling Speechware Levels 1-6
Houghton Mifflin Company $ 66.00
Grades: 1-6 **Hardware:** Apple II e c GS 64K, Echo+ Speech Synthesizer or Cricket Speech Synthesizer for Apple II c (included if the complete set is purchased). **Keywords:** Language Arts, Spelling, Tutorial, Drill. **Description:** Program incorporates speech, tutorials and motivational lessons for supplemental general practice on spelling words chosen by the teacher. A built-in management system keep records of student and class performance. Each level priced individually.

Think Quick!
The Learning Company $ 49.95
Grades: 2-8 **Hardware:** Apple II + e c GS 64K, IBM PC, Tandy 1000 256K, Optional Joystick or Mouse. **Keywords:** Problem Solving, Game. **Description:** Students develop critical thinking skills as they explore over 100 rooms in the Castle of Mystikar.

WritingWorks Writing Files and Activities for AppleWorks
Scholastic, Inc. $ 74.95
Grades: 7-12 **Hardware:** Apple II family 128K, AppleWorks. **Keywords:** Language Arts, Writing, Word Processing, Template. **Description:** A collection of AppleWorks templates designed to provide inventive assignments which will improve students' expository and creative writing skills. Activities focus on writing as a process.

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CLARIS Corporation
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Library and Reference Services
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839 Stewart Ave., P.O. Box 865
Garden City, NY 11530
800/645-8989, 516/794-8900 (in NY, AK, HI)

Great Lakes Software
P.O. Box 8756
Green Bay, WI 54308
414/468-0361, 414/758-2615

Houghton Mifflin Company, Educational Software Division
Mount Support Road, CN 9000
Lebanon, NH 03766-9000
603/448-3838

IBM, Inc.
P.O. Box 2150
Atlanta, GA 30055
404/988-2547

Learning Company, The
6493 Kaiser Drive
Fremont, CA 94555
415/792-2101, 800/852-2255

Mathematics Software Company
419 South Boeke Road
Evansville, IN 47714
812/479-6665

MECC
3490 Lexington Avenue North
St. Paul, MN 55126
612/481-3500, 612 481-3670, 800/228-3504

Mindscape, Inc.
3444 Dundee Road
Northbrook, IL 60062
800/221-9884 x 227

National Geographic Educational Services
Educational Services, Dept. 87, 17th & M Streets, NW
Washington, DC 20036
800/368-2728, 202/828-6605

Pelican Software
LLSP
21000 Nordhoff Street
Chatsworth, California 91311
800/247-4641

Scholastic, Inc.
730 Broadway
New York, NY 10003
212/998-5622, 212/505-3561

Silver Burdett & Ginn
250 James Street, P.O. Box 1918
Morristown, NJ 07960-1918
201/285-8135, 800/848-9500, 201/285-7894

Software Toolworks, The
One Toolworks Plaza, 13557 Ventura Blvd.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
818/907-6789

Sunburst Communications
39 Washington Avenue
Pleasantville, NY 10570-9971
800/431-1934

Tom Snyder Productions, Inc.
90 Sherman Street
Cambridge, MA 02140
800/342-0236

Wolfram Research
P.O. Box 6059
Champaign, IL 61821
217/398-0700

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Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-4952

THE Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

NEW AND PROMISING:
Software Worth A Look

A MicroSIFT Survey of
Educational Software Preview Center Coordinators

Volume I, No. 3

Jim Pollard

March 1989

Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
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This report might be thought of as a tip sheet for educational software. It consists of the opinions of a group of ten computer coordinators from educational software preview centers and evaluation agencies. Since these people have access to the newest software (often before it is actually published) and since they communicate with a great number of teachers, the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory considers their opinions about the new software very valuable. Keep in mind, these are products which seem promising—they have not necessarily been thoroughly tested. As with any recommendations, this list should be viewed as a list of products worth investigating further on your own.

This is the third quarter in which a *New and Promising* report has been compiled. It is worth mentioning that many products from the first two quarterly lists have still not made it to the market. In this issue, we have tried very hard to distinguish between actual software and software which is only complete enough for a salesperson to demonstrate.

Aldus Persuasion
Publisher: Aldus Corporation **Price:** $ 495.00
Grades: 9-12
Topics: Business Ed., Speech, Presentation
Hardware: Macintosh Plus or newer
Description: Using templates, the student or teacher can develop a presentation very quickly and professionally. Business graphing is available from data imported from popular spreadsheets. The program uses color if it is available. It also includes a spelling checker, an on-screen slide show feature, clip art and special graphic effects.

Cricket Paint
Publisher: Cricket Software, Inc. **Price:** $ 195.00
Grades: 4-16
Topics: Graphics, Fine Arts, Art, Business Ed., Vocational Ed.
Hardware: Macintosh—2MB recommended but will run with 1MB.
Description: A Macintosh paint program with seven levels of resolution ranging from 72 to 300 dot per inch. It will import MacPaint, TIFF, PICT, & PICT2 formats. The program combines the ease of object drawing with the versatility of paint programs.

Culture 1.0
Publisher: Cultural Resources, Inc. **Price:** $ 175.00
Grades: 7-14
Topics: Music, Art, Fine Arts, Database, History, Social Studies
Hardware: Macintosh, hard disk, 1 Meg RAM, HyperCard 1.2 or greater
Description: A guide to Western history and culture from the Middle Ages through the 20th century, including famous people, art, music and historical essays. The program is in the form of hypercard stacks.

Derive
Publisher: Soft Warehouse **Price:** $ 200.00
Grades: 9-12
Topics: Trigonometry, Geometry, Calculus, Algebra, Utility
Hardware: IBM PC/PCjr/PS2 256K, Tandy 1000 256K
Description: This is a powerful "mathematics processor." Its primary function is a symbolic manipulation program (e.g., it knows that 2X + 3X = 5X). It will do plot integrals and parametrics and features powerful zoom capabilities. If a problem is out of its range it will offer the option of solving it numerically rather than symbolically.

'88 Vote, The: Campaign for the Whitehouse
Publisher: Optical Data Corporation **Price:** $ 395.00
Grades: 7-12
Topics: Government,Videodisc,Social Studies
Hardware: Macintosh Plus
Description: This videodisc and hypercard package features the 1988 presidential campaign from the announcement of the original 13 candidates to the general election. Television news footage of speeches, conventions, issues, debates, etc. are introduced by Peter Jennings. The hypercard stacks are adapted from those which were used by Mr. Jennings during ABC's coverage of the presidential campaign. The package is the first of a planned series called "Instant Replay of History."

LinkWay
Publisher: IBM, Inc. **Price:** $ 110.00
Grades: 9-16
Topics: Authoring, Database, Utility
Hardware: IBM PC 384K, mouse, hard disk
Description: A HyperCard-like program for IBM machines. The basic package offers a text editor, print utilities, font editor, a utility to capture and incorporate any image on the screen, and a variety of fonts, icons, and preprogrammed buttons.

Medley: A Desktop Publishing Program
Publisher: Milliken Publishing Company **Price:** $ 195.00
Grades: 4-12
Topics: Vocational Ed.,Language Arts, Writing, Business Ed., Page Layout, Word Processing, Graphics, ABE, Utility, Keyboarding, Spelling Checker
Hardware: Apple II GS 1.25M, Printer
Description: A fully integrated desktop publishing program for the Apple II GS. Major components include word processing, page layout, graphics, spelling checker, Thesaurus, and picture library.

Neurobics
Publisher: Ocean Isle Software **Price:** $ 44.95
Grades: 5-12
Topics: Game, Home, Art, Memory, Problem Solving, Math
Hardware: IBM PC/PCjr/PS2 256K, Tandy 1000 256K
Description: An aerobics workout for the mind. This set of six brain teaser puzzles exercise the short-term memory. Each puzzle starts at an easy level and progresses to "absolutely impossible."

Our World Yesterday & Today
Publisher: Scott, Foresman & Company **Price:** $ 99.95
Grades: 6-7
Topics: Social Studies, History, Database, Test Generator
Hardware: Apple II e c GS 128K, Printer
Description: A database program with accompanying classroom activities correlated with the Scott, Foresman "Our World Yesterday & Today" textbook series. A test generator and question writer utility are included.

Pages
Publisher: PinPoint Software **Price:** $ 79.95
Grades: 8-14
Topics: Page Layout, Writing, Language Arts, Word Processing
Hardware: IBM PC 640K, printer
Description: A mouse-based desktop publishing program for students or administrators.

Screen Recorder
Publisher: Farallon Computing, Inc. **Price:** $ 195.00
Grades: 9-16
Topics: Utility, Teacher Training, Marketing
Hardware: Mac Plus or newer with 1 MB.
Description: This desk accessory acts like a video recorder which is focused on your screen. As you work, the Macintosh screen activity is saved to a file. The file can be played back later without the application you were using. The program comes with hypercard playback stack which can be given away with your recording without a licensing fee. Great for developing training on virtually any Macintosh program, or for "canning" demonstrations of a program.

Second Voyage of the Mimi
Publisher: Sunburst **Price:** $650.00
Grades: 4-8
Topics: A variety of elementary and middle school topics
Hardware: VHS and Beta videotape
Description: Since the Mimi first sailed, rumors of her second voyage have abounded. This entry is not a report of new and promising software. It is, instead, a progress report. The Mimi is sailing again on video tape. There are 12 half-hour tapes which are currently available. These will eventually (expected in the Fall of 1989) be accompanied by computer software.

Slide Shop
Publisher: Scholastic, Inc. **Price:** $ 69.95
Grades: 4-12
Topics: Graphics, Presentation
Hardware: Apple II e c GS, IBM PC 265K
Description: A desktop presentation system which enables the teacher to create graphic displays incorporating borders, text, clip art, and sound; animate graphics; sequence the display; and select from a variety of transitions between displays.

SpeechViewer Convenience Kit
Publisher: IBM, Inc. **Price:** $ 1,200.00
Grades: 0-12
Topics: Special Ed., Language Arts, Speech, Interfacing
Hardware: IBM PS2 Model 25 or 30, DOS 4.0
Description: A microphone is used to accept the student's speech which is then digitized, stored, and analyzed. Animated display refines and simplifies the feedback process by making selected attributes (pitch, loudness, timing) visible and easy to comprehend.

Springboard Publisher
Publisher: Springboard Software, Inc. **Price:** $ 199.95
Grades: 5-12
Topics: Writing, Language Arts, Page Layout, Word Processing
Hardware: Apple II e c GS 128K, Macintosh, IBM PC 512K, Printer
Description: A desktop publishing program with Mac-like interface capable of incorporating graphics with text.

Top Honors

Publisher: Springboard Software, Inc. **Price:** $ 99.95
Grades: 0-16
Topics: Graphics, Page Layout, Art, Fine Arts
Hardware: Macintosh Plus/SE/II, PostScript printer
Description: A graphics utility program for creating professional-looking awards and certificates. The program takes full advantage of the PostScript capabilities of the LaserWriter printer and comes with a library of borders and graphics.

World Data

Publisher: Data Disc International **Price:** $ 49.95
Grades: 7-16
Topics: Database, Geography, Social Studies, History, Economics, Government
Hardware: Macintosh, HyperCard
Description: World Data is a hypercard stack containing 47 fields of information on 167 countries of the world. It is designed for classroom use. The file specifies the map location, and provides economic, political, geographic, and historic data.

World GeoGraph

Publisher: MECC **Price:** $ 139.00
Grades: 6-14
Topics: Social Studies, Geography, Maps, Database
Hardware: Apple II GS 768K, color monitor, 3.5" disk drive
Description: An exploration tool with "living map" capabilities. Links a 55-category database with colorful maps so that database information can be viewed either textually or graphically. It comes with a user guide. A comprehensive classroom manual with detailed lesson plans is available for an additional $19.95.

PRODUCER CONTACT INFORMATION

Aldus Corporation
411 First Avenue South, Suite 200
Seattle, WA 98104
206/622-5500 206/628-2375

Cricket Software, Inc.
30 Valley Stream Parkway
Malvern, PA 19355
215/251-9890 800/345-8112 (orders)

Cultural Resources, Inc.
7 Little Falls Way
Scotch Plains, NJ 07076
201/232-4333

Data Disc International
1430 Willamette, Suite 577
Eugene, OR 97401

Farallon Computing Inc.
2201 Dwight Way
Berkeley, CA 94704
(415) 849-2331

IBM, Inc.
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Atlanta, GA 30055
404/988-2547

MECC
3490 Lexington Avenue North
St. Paul, MN 55126
612/481-3500 800/228-3504

Milliken Publishing Company
1100 Research Blvd. - P.O. Box 21579
St. Louis, MO 63132-0579
314/991-4220 800/643-0008

Ocean Isle Software
697 Copa d'Oro
Marathon, FL 33050
(305) 743-4546 (800) 882-8664

Optical Data Corporation
66 Hanover Street, Box 97
Florham Park, NJ 07932-0097
201 377-0302 800 524-2481

Scholastic, Inc.
730 Broadway
New York, NY 10003
212/998-5622 212/505-3561

Scott, Foresman & Company
1900 E. Lake Avenue
Glenview, IL 60025
312/729-3000

Soft Warehouse
3615 Harding Ave.
Honolulu, HI 96816

Springboard Software, Inc.
7808 Creekridge Circle
Minneapolis, MN 55435
612/944-3915

Tom Snyder Productions, Inc.
90 Sherman Street
Cambridge, MA 02140
800/342-0236 617/876-4433

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